

**TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE**  
**RECORD OF MEETING**  
**First Quarterly Meeting, Fiscal Year 2006**

Meeting Date: November 10, 2005  
Meeting No.: 66

Place: TCEQ Campus, Building F  
Room: 2210

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## MEETING ATTENDANCE

TGPC Members  
 Mary Ambrose  
 Robert Mace  
 Leslie Savage  
 Ambrose Charles  
 David Gunn  
 Allan Jones  
 Richard Egg  
 Barry Miller  
 Ken Ofunrein  
 Bridget Scanlon

Affiliation  
 TCEQ  
 TWDB  
 RCT  
 TDA  
 TDLR  
 TAES  
 TSSWCB  
 TAGD  
 DSHS  
 BEG

Agency Staff  
 Abiy Berehe  
 Cary Betz  
 Leon Byrd  
 Chris Chandler  
 Alan Cherepon  
 Frank Fuller  
 April Hoh  
 Isaac Jackson  
 Steve Musick  
 Joe Peters  
 Monty Dozier  
 Bruce Lesikar  
 Janie Hopkins

<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Program</u>
TCEQ	Water Supply Division
TCEQ	Water Supply Division
TCEQ	Water Supply Division
TCEQ	Remediation Division
TCEQ	Water Supply Division
TCEQ	Water Program
TCEQ	Water Quality Division
TCEQ	Inter Governmental Relations
TCEQ	Water Supply Division
TCEQ	Water Supply Division
TCE	
TCE	
TWDB	

Interested Parties  
 Mary Etter  
 Ann Ardis  
 Lynne Fahlquist  
 W.F. (Kirk) Holland  
 Jim O'Connor  
 George Caldwell

Affiliation  
 LCRA  
 USGS  
 USGS  
 BS/EACD  
 SAWS  
 Texas Farm Bureau

## MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Agenda
2. [tx H<sub>2</sub>O](#), volume 1, number 1
3. Handout on 11 TCEQ Rule Projects  
([http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/rules/propose\\_adopt.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/rules/propose_adopt.html))
4. [On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems: Selecting and Permitting](#) – (B-6077, April 2005)
5. [On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems: Homeowner's Guide to Evaluating Service Contracts](#) – (B-6171, July 2005)
6. [On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems: Soil Particle Analysis Procedure](#) – (B6175, August 2005)
7. [On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems: Graywater](#) – (B-6176, October 2005)
8. TCEQ Remediation Division, Instructions for Collecting and Submitting Site and Private Water Well Location Information, October 2005
9. [Guidelines for Identifying and Protecting Aquifer Recharge Features](#) – (RG-433, October 2005)
10. [Preparation of a Drinking Water Survey Report](#) – (RG-428, November 2005)
11. Announcement for Ground Water Protection Council 2006 Underground Injection Control (UIC) Conference, January 23 – 25, 2006
12. Announcement for Texas Ground Water Association 2006 Annual Convention & Trade Show, January 24 – 27, 2006
13. Announcement for United States Department of Agriculture – Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (USDA-CSREES) National Water Conference, February 5 – 9, 2006
14. Announcement for National Ground Water Association 2006 Ground Water Summit, April 23 – 26, 2006
15. Announcement for American Water Resources Association 2006 Spring Specialty Conference, GIS and Water Resources IV, May 8 – 10, 2006

## MEETING RECORD OF November 10, 2005

### **I. Call to Order and Introductions**

Mary Ambrose, Designated Chairman of the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC), called the FY2006, First Quarterly Meeting to order at 1:08 p.m., CST.

### **II. Subcommittee Reports**

**Agricultural Chemicals** - Steve Musick (TCEQ). The Agricultural Chemicals Subcommittee held its FY 2006 first quarter meeting on November 10, 2005 at 10:40 a.m., chaired by Steve Musick.

#### **Task Force Reports**

Site Selection Ms. Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported for the Site Selection Task Force. Sampling areas in the Gulf Coast in September and October were adjusted due to Hurricane Rita impacts in the northern Gulf Coast. The TWDB will sample this year in the Carrizo Aquifer. TWDB will once again collect samples for TCEQ pesticide immunoassay analysis.

Educational Dr. Bruce Lesikar (TCE) reported that there were no meetings of the Educational Task Force this past quarter. Texas Cooperative Extension staff conducted three water well outreach programs and one well closure. Dr. Lesikar reported that at least four agent training events are scheduled for FY 06.

State Management Plan Dr. Ambrose Charles (TDA) reported on the status of the EPA Settlement Agreement on potential adverse affects of pesticides on the Barton Springs Salamander. He reported that EPA Headquarters staff are in a data collection phase, and had requested information from TDA on pesticide products used in Texas and land use information.

#### **Presentation**

The Subcommittee heard a presentation by Ms. Barbara Mahler of the U.S. Geological Survey on water quality sampling data from Barton Springs, especially as it relates to pesticides.

#### **Business Discussion and Possible Action**

The Subcommittee adopted its FY 2006 Pesticide Monitoring Plan, consisting of continued cooperative monitoring with the TWDB and other cooperating entities with Immunoassay analysis by TCEQ; ongoing monitoring of atrazine-impacted public water supply (PWS) systems, primarily in the Texas Panhandle; confirmation sampling of PWS systems with pesticide detects, and research to identify areas of significant prometon use for possible sampling.

#### **Information Exchange**

PMP monitoring activities Alan Cherepon presented the final report on the PMP monitoring activities for FY 2005 which included cooperative monitoring in the Gulf Coast and Panhandle areas, first trip to conduct Immunoassay monitoring of all pumping PWS wells of Amarillo (71 wells), and second trip to conduct the follow-up monitoring in the Panhandle, taking samples for both Immunoassay and laboratory analysis, (25 wells).

Atrazine iRED Monitoring Update Mr. Ed Baker with Syngenta presented a summary of the results of surface water atrazine sampling for the past year in the affected north-central Texas watersheds. Two watersheds showed small increases in average annual atrazine concentrations. The remaining watersheds showed small decreases.

There were no public comments. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 AM

**Data Management** - Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that the Data Management Subcommittee did not meet in the last quarter, but will have a meeting in either December or January. The members of the Committee will be contacted in order to assist in increasing the Subcommittee membership. There is a lot of work to accomplish.

**Public Education and Outreach** - Dr. Bruce Lesikar (TEC), Co-Chair, reported that the Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee did not meet during the last quarter, but there are several activities that are being completed.

Residential Wastewater Fact Sheet - The fact sheet has been completed and is available.

The Arsenic and Perchlorate Fact Sheets have been finalized and the English versions have been submitted to the printer and are currently being translated into Spanish.

The Radionuclide and Nitrate Fact Sheet s have been drafted and are now in the editing process and should be complete in about two months.

Priority Groundwater Management Area Fact Sheet is nearing completion. The goal is to have the final draft to the printer by January.

Since these products are nearly finished, a meeting should be conducted sometime in January to discuss possible implementation.

**Groundwater Research** - Bridget Scanlon (BEG), Co-Chair, reported that the Subcommittee held its FY 2006 first quarter meeting on November 10, 2005. The Subcommittee discussed white papers that are being worked on to investigate groundwater/surface water interaction. The next topic of study will be the Edwards-Trinity aquifer in the Edwards Plateau. Allan Jones (TAES) discussed developing background information on desalination and nitrate issues that would be helpful in writing white papers on those subjects. These items will be worked on during the next quarter by the Groundwater Research Subcommittee.

**Nonpoint Source Task Force** - Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that the Nonpoint Source Task Force did not meet during the last quarter.

### **III. Presentation**

The scheduled presentation by the USGS was canceled.

### **IV. Business - Discussion & Possible Action**

#### **Subcommittee Chairs Roundtable on *Strategy* Implementation -**

Mary Ambrose, Chair, called for a discussion of the recommendations in the *Strategy*. The subcommittee co-chairs were asked to take part in the discussion because of subcommittee charges on implementing the recommendations. Also there may be problems that have emerged since 2002, or that were just missed altogether.

The first major topic that was discussed is:

#### **STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATION WITH THE STATE'S WATER PLANNING EFFORTS**

**Summary of Implementation Activities-** There is no subcommittee that is in charge of this topic, it is a full committee activity. Robert Mace (TWDB) presents reports concerning the regional planning groups and the groundwater availability modeling (GAM). He indicated that there are avenues to communicate, either directly or through the TWDB, with the regional water planning groups (RWPGs, [http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/RWPG/group\\_info.asp](http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/RWPG/group_info.asp)) and that groundwater districts (<http://www.texasgroundwater.org/>) and RWPGs are concerned about water quality issues

**Discussion-** Steve Musick (TCEQ), voiced concern whether water quality issues that the RWPGs have identified are being conveyed to this Committee.

Robert Mace (TWDB) indicated that the groundwater group in the TWDB will review the groundwater portions of the regional water plan, so that any concerns can be brought to the Committees attention.

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#### **IMPROVE GROUNDWATER DATA**

##### *Groundwater Monitoring*

**Summary of Implementation Activities-** Mary Ambrose (Chair). The next major topic is improved groundwater data collection and assessment. The Committee should develop recommendations on the design of a groundwater monitoring system that will meet the needs of all member agencies.

Discussion- Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that the Data Management subcommittee has received a draft groundwater monitoring strategy. The subcommittee is presently refining elements of this strategy to meet the needs of the member agencies. The preparation of the most current version of the state's water quality inventory report (The Groundwater Assessment portion of the 305(b) report) has identified some additional data issues that were not apparent when the *Strategy* was prepared. Over the history of this program, some constituents have been dropped, or become less important, while other analyses have become more expensive, so fewer samples are being analyzed.

### *Groundwater Data Management*

Summary of Implementation Activities- Mary Ambrose (Chair): The next topic involves data management and how to manage data so that it can be shared between different groups. The main recommendation is that the committee review and revise its groundwater data management standards and guidelines, and actively participate in various data management advisory groups. Each task must be identified in terms of a short-term goal (five years), a medium-term goal (6 – 15 years), or a long-term goal (16 – 25 years).

Discussion- Cary Betz (TCEQ). The data management subcommittee is responsible for production and preparation of the Texas groundwater data dictionary which is a standard for groundwater data collection. The data dictionary was submitted to the Texas Geographic Information Council (<http://www.dir.state.tx.us/tgic/>) for review of the spatial data standards.

Mary Ambrose (Chair). The USGS uses the NWIS program and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) uses STORET for their datasets. These two databases are not compatible, even though an attempt is being made to remedy that situation, it is a long-term goal.

Lynne Fahlquist (USGS): The USGS has some internal documents that cross reference STORET and NWIS, but they are not published. Over time STORET did not keep up with USGS demand for parameter codes, so it was modified.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that he is the TGPC liaison to the Texas Water Monitoring Council (<http://www.txwmc.org/>) and both the USGS and TWDB are involved in that group as well. Through the individual agencies there are internal contacts with all of the other data groups. The TCEQ has been successful in conveying information or requests to our Geographic Information System (GIS) steering committee and our Information Technology Work Group (ITWG) through which data related topics are accomplished.

Steve Musick (TCEQ) reported regarding the Agricultural-Chemical Subcommittee's pesticide work. There is a need for improving groundwater data to include the degradates of the various pesticides of concern. Various analytical methods and laboratories have

been identified. The inter-agency pesticide database is maintained by the TCEQ and past pesticide database reports are proposed for updating in fiscal year 2006.

#### *Geographic Information Systems/Relational Database*

**Summary of Implementation Activities-** Mary Ambrose (Chair): The next topic is the need for geographic information systems (GIS) and relational databases that address groundwater contamination. The *Strategy* recommendation states that the location and geometry of contamination plumes should be placed in a GIS format. This recommendation is a medium-term goal.

**Discussion-** Cary Betz (TCEQ): In preparing the *Joint Groundwater Monitoring Contamination Report* there is a continuing issue to get geographic locations for contamination sites from contributing agencies. Toward that end, TCEQ's GIS team has developed a number of databases that can be adapted for use in the *Joint Groundwater Monitoring Contamination Report*. Plotting the contamination plume data is ongoing, which is a medium-term goal.

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#### *Water Well Drillers Reports*

Mary Ambrose (Chair) stated that the *Strategy* recommends that all the historic and hard copy data from water-well drillers reports be placed in a digital format and made accessible through the existing system

David Gunn (TDLR): There was a joint effort among the TWDB, the TDLR, and the TCEQ to establish the criteria for accomplishing this task.

Steve Musick (TCEQ): There was a source of funding a little over a year ago, and a concerted effort was made by the TDLR, the TCEQ, and the TWDB to take advantage of the funds. Time frames for the funding and the opportunity to spend it were too tight. The TCEQ is currently working with its Information Resources (IR) to get a head start on the various administrative processes through the Department of Information Resources. The cost of this project hinges completely on how many fields are to be searched. Searching on somewhere between three and five fields would cost over \$300,000.

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#### **COORDINATED RESEARCH**

**Summary of Implementation Activities-** Mary Ambrose (Chair): The next major category is coordinated research with the recommendation to form a research subcommittee to identify interagency research needs and to provide a coordinated approach for discussion with federal agencies for funding.

**Discussion-** Bridget Scanlon (BEG) reported that the subcommittee has tried to evaluate research needs that several agencies would be interested in. There have been several talks

within the research subcommittee about different research needs, white papers are being written, and next the aim would be to target funding sources.

Steve Musick (TCEQ) said the Agricultural-Chemical Subcommittee is interested in pesticide movement in the vadose zone. There is information about atrazine and various other pesticides related to groundwater sampling and surface water occurrence, but it is difficult to connect the two.

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## **INCREASE PUBLIC OUTREACH**

**Summary of Implementation Activities-** Mary Ambrose (Chair): The next major topic is increased public outreach. The *Strategy* recommends a voluntary program be conducted targeted toward private well owners, designed to identify problem areas and assist private well owners in understanding groundwater quality issues. The second recommendation further identifies public educational materials and outreach programs. There are two issues, the development of the information and then the outreach component.

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### *Private Well Owners*

**Discussion-** Bruce Lesikar (TCE) reported that the Public Outreach and Education Subcommittee has developed educational materials including fact sheets discussing arsenic, perchlorate, nitrate, radionuclides, in-home treatment devices, water quality standards, shock chlorination of the wells, stored water, iron, manganese, lead contaminants, and hydrogen sulfide. Some of the fact sheets are currently available through the web at <http://soilcrop.tamu.edu>. Also TCE is looking into training for agents in order to raise awareness.

There are programs in place that address all of the different issues that might occur on a small acreage tract, such as water well, septic system, maybe a pond, fencing, nutrient management, livestock issues, pesticide application, and forage management. Several counties (Brazoria, Comal, Harris, Parker, Tarrant, and Waller,) have an informal educational program in place to address these issues. One such program in Harris County is called the “Urban Rancher”.

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### *On-Site Wastewater*

**Summary of Implementation Activities-** Mary Ambrose (Chair): The next issue for discussion is the Committee recommendation to support the On-Site Wastewater Research Council (<http://www.towtrc.state.tx.us/>), the Texas Cooperative Extension Service, the TCEQ’s on-site wastewater program, and local governments to help develop educational materials that address maintenance of on-site systems in order to prevent failures.

**Discussion-** Bruce Lesikar (TCE): There are about 23 fact sheets that explain different technologies that are available. Also, the Texas On-Site Wastewater Association (<http://www.txowa.org/>) has been working to provide training for operation and maintenance, and point of sale inspection.

Leslie Savage (RCT) stated that it would be helpful to have a fact sheet developed on, “what are the requirements for a water well that is drilled as a rig supply well or water injection supply well.” Another topic is the P13 well which is the reconditioning of an abandoned oil and gas well into a water well. A regulation which is effective January 1, 2006 states that if a landowner has an oil and gas well that has been abandoned, and is relatively low on the Priority Risk scheme, the owner can have the well plugged by a commission-approved plugger, and then seek reimbursement for half of the plugging cost. Something explaining this procedure should be developed for landowners.

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*Organization of State Agency Web Sites Organized Around Groundwater as a Theme*

Mary Ambrose (Chair): The next *Strategy* item finds that state agency web pages are not always organized around groundwater as a theme. The TGPC has tried, through its website, to establish links on its page to the groundwater-specific items within other state agencies’ websites so that it functions as a type of clearinghouse. As Committee members you should view the website and see what is there, and any suggestions that you have for things that need to be added would be beneficial. A conscious effort is made to keep up with broken links etc., but the woman who was working on that went to work in another area in the agency. That position will be filled in January, 2006.

**COMMIT TO DEVELOPMENT OF PERIODIC UPDATES AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE STATE GROUNDWATER PROTECTION STRATEGY**

**Summary of Implementation Activities-** Mary Ambrose (Chair): The last major topic is a commitment to development of periodic updates and improvements to the *State Groundwater Protection Strategy*. The TGPC intends to conduct an assessment that will identify and rank threats to groundwater quality. The assessment will take into consideration the vulnerability of groundwater resources, use available data, and prioritize possible actions that should address those threats.

**Discussion-** Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that the current 305(b) report is in the final editing stages. The report has gone a long way toward identifying and ranking threats to groundwater quality using the TWDB’s groundwater monitoring database. The usual constituents were identified, such as nitrate and arsenic; there are sections on perchlorate and boron.

Bridget Scanlon (BEG) suggested that one database with USGS data, the raw water data from wells in the TCEQ PWS database, and the TWDB data would be an excellent idea, with only one source to go to for groundwater quality data.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) added, the 305(b) report is the reference document for the state's Nonpoint Source Management Plan and includes the impaired water bodies (303(d)) list. The report identifies water bodies that are available for action under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act (<http://www.epa.gov/region5/water/cwa.htm>), the non-point source section. Data presented in this report are prioritized for action under the Non-Point Source Management Plan.

Mary Ambrose (Chair) indicated this topic has both short- and medium-term goals, and the reason for the medium-term on there is that it is not clear how to analyze the joint groundwater monitoring and contamination report data.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that our current level of investigation indicates that the contamination cases listed in the *Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report* has no great impact on the overall health of major and minor aquifers. As datasets are developed, identification of areas impacting the shallower aquifers will become easier and perhaps the impact on major and minor aquifers can be determined as well.

The Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) data do not take into account any of the land use studies done by the USGS in the past. It's more programmatic. Those data include potential sources of contamination (PSOCs) versus general land use which would concern more non-point source contamination.

Leslie Savage (RCT) suggested a long-term goal might include ways to determine baseline quality for groundwater, and from that baseline determine whether the quality is improving or deteriorating. If there is deterioration, then determine what are the potential causes?

Bridget Scanlon (BEG) stated that there are examples of that type of study. The European Union has spent a lot of time developing baseline groundwater quality and they have many reports related to their findings. Also the USGS NAWQA (<http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/>) reports include types of baseline numbers by indicating when quality is not impacted. However, in any of the time series analyses of the data, no trends have been discovered.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) suggested starting with an assessment such as the 305(b) reports, for example, or a similar report, and use it as a baseline, and all data, from this point on, would be compared to that specific report for baseline.

Mary Ambrose (Chair) reported that the National Water Quality Monitoring Council (<http://water.usgs.gov/wicp/acwi/monitoring/>) has a number of different work groups but the most active one is Methods and Data Comparability Group. What they try to deal with is studying analytical methods and seeing how they would be comparable, because several federal agencies do their own type of testing, using their own methods. The Group tries to encourage the ability to compare and to share data and collaborate on issues.

Mary Ambrose (Chair) summed up the agenda item discussion suggesting that rather than re-writing the *Strategy* for the next report to the legislature, what has been discussed today could be summarized to present to the legislature. This information would show how the *Strategy* is being implemented. Also today's discussion has pointed out several areas that need to be addressed through implementation.

Steve Musick (TCEQ) suggested that the Committee has just reviewed the highlights of implementation over the last two years. There has not been sufficient time to work through a lot of the recommendations, although there has been a great deal of progress. The legislature will be back in session in 2007 and 2009, but there may not be enough time to prepare an updated *Strategy* by 2007. The 2007 committee report to the legislature can be viewed as an incentive, at the subcommittee level, to pursue and finish some of these short-term goals. Once that has been accomplished, then as a committee, the scope of the update will become more clear.

***Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy- Discuss Strategy Implementation Issues -***

Frank Fuller, TCEQ, called the committee's attention to chapter 10 of the *Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy (Strategy)*. For the next Committee meeting Frank suggested that each member and sub-committee chair discuss what has been implemented so far and what still needs to be implemented and what are the plans for implementation. Focus will be on the short and medium term goals.

**Open Meeting and Open Records Training - New Requirements for Committee**

**Members and Designated Representatives** - Mary Ambrose (Chair) reported that John Williams (TCEQ Legal Services) informed her that the video for the training will become available later in the year. When the video does become available a Committee meeting will be scheduled to view it, which will fulfill our requirements for open meeting and open records training.

**Set Future Meeting Dates** - Next meeting: Thursday, February 2, 2006, 1:00 p.m., Room 2210, Building F, TCEQ Campus.

**V. Information Exchange for Groundwater Related Activities/Status Update**

**Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report - 2005** - Abiy Berehe (TCEQ) reported that questionnaires for the 2005 report will be sent out in January.

**Status - Water Quality Inventory ("305(b)") Report -2004.** Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that the surface water section of the *Water Quality Inventory 305(b) Report* has been approved by the EPA and will be posted on the TCEQ web site in November, 2005. EPA would like for the groundwater assessment portion to be completed so that it can be posted at the same time. The groundwater section of the report is in final editing and should be completed and ready on time. When the report becomes available an e-mail will be forwarded to all of the Committee members indicating where to access it.

**Status - State Nonpoint Source Management Plan Development** - Richard Egg (TSSWCB) reported that the *Management Plan* has been approved by the TCEQ and the TSSWCB and is in route to the governor's office. It goes to the governor's office, the attorney general reviews it, and the governor signs it, then the *Management Plan* is good for five years.

**Status - Groundwater Contamination Notice Coordination (HB 3030, 78<sup>th</sup> Legislature)** - Steve Musick (TCEQ) reported that at the last Committee meeting the TCEQ had adopted an internal Protocol and hoped to meet with all of the other agencies to discuss that Protocol. We are now ready to meet with the other agencies and will try to meet individually, but it may be more feasible to meet with several agencies at one time. These meetings will be scheduled before the next Committee meeting.

Chris Chandler (TCEQ, Remediation Division) reported that the Remediation Division is working on establishing a database that will inventory the location (by latitude and longitude) of all the wells identified during their remediation investigations.

**Regional Water Planning Update - Texas Water Development Board.** Robert Mace (TWDB) reported that all of the regions have submitted their initial water plans for internal staff review. The final regional plan should be submitted to the Board by January 5, 2006. The Board will assemble a draft state water plan by mid summer and visit key location within the state to receive public input. An updated/final version of the water plan will go to the legislature in January, 2007 for approval. Some of the aquifer boundaries will be changed in the new water plan due to findings related to the Groundwater Availability Modeling. Another update will be to modify the bad water line of the Edwards aquifer.

**Groundwater Availability Modeling (GAM) Update - Texas Water Development Board.** Robert Mace (TWDB) reported that requests for qualifications for new modeling work has been sent out. The modeling will be to develop GAMs for the Nacatoch aquifer; several west Texas bolson aquifers (Red Light Draw, Green River Valley, and Eagle Flat); and the Dockum aquifer. Also the Edwards-Trinity High Plains and the southern Ogalalla aquifers will be included. Agency staff will work on a GAM for the Presidio Bolson aquifer. The Blossom aquifer will be investigated. The lower Trinity aquifer will be added to the Hill Country Trinity aquifer.

## **VI. Announcements (All Members)**

**Rules Update** - Robert Mace (TWDB) Chapter 356 rule changes as related to HB 1763 are going to be presented to the Board in November, 2005 and then for public comment and hope to have rules in place by the end of the year.

A summary of the TCEQ rule tracking log was distributed to members. There are 11 rules summarized in the tracking log that bear interest to the committee. Questions concerning a specific rule should be directed to the Project Manager listed beside the rule.

Ambrose Charles (TDA) reported that the rules changing the expiration dates for licenses

has been adopted.

Leslie Savage (RCT) reported that HB 380 which requires well operators to have financial assurance on file before they can drill a well will go before the commissions November 29, 2005.

Also, SB 1130 which requires that pipeline contamination be reported has some wording problems and is temporarily on hold.

The RCT is communicating with TCEQ and DSHS regarding the update of their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to clarify some issues and to develop a new MOU with DSHS relating to Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) issues.

Richard Egg (TSSWCB) reported that the Proposed State Brush Plan is to be considered at a public hearing November 17, 2005.

### **New Publications**

Texas Water Development Board, e-letter, *Aquifer Monitor*.

TWDB Report 364, August 2005, *Hydrogeology of Hudspeth County, Texas*.

TCEQ RG-433, October 2005, *Guidelines for Identifying and Protecting Aquifer Recharge Features*.

TCEQ RG-428, *Preparation of a Drinking Water Survey Report*, November 2005.

Texas Water Resources Institute, vol. 1, no. 1, *tx H<sub>2</sub>O*.

Texas Cooperative Extension, On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems, B-6077, April 2005, *Selecting and Permitting*.

Texas Cooperative Extension, On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems, B-6171, July 2005, *Homeowner's Guide to Evaluating Service Contracts*.

Texas Cooperative Extension, On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems, B-6175, August 2005, *Soil Particle Analysis Procedure*.

Texas Cooperative Extension, On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems, B-6176, October 2005, *Graywater*.

### **Upcoming Conferences**

Watershed Management Conference, Ft. Worth, Texas, November 17-18, 2006.

Beltwide Cotton Conference, San Antonio, Texas, January 3-6, 2006.

33rd Annual Groundwater Management Districts Association Conference, San Antonio, Texas, January 16-18, 2006,

Groundwater Protection Council, 2006 Underground Injection Control Conference, Austin, Texas, January 23-25, 2006.

Texas Ground Water Association, 2005 Annual Convention & Trade Show, Galveston, Texas, January 24-27, 2006.

USDA-Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, National Water Conference, San Antonio, Texas, February 5-9, 2006.

Groundwater Resource Division of the Texas Water Development Board, Aquifers of the Gulf Coast of Texas Conference, Corpus Christi, Texas, February 15-17, 2006.

14th Annual Texas On-Site Wastewater Treatment Research Council Conference, Waco, Texas, March 6-8, 2006.

National Ground Water Association, 2006 Ground Water Summit, San Antonio, Texas, April 23-26, 2006.

American Water Resources Association, 2006 Spring Specialty Conference, GIS and Water Resources IV, Houston, Texas, May 8-10, 2006.

## **VII. Public Comment**

Ann Ardis (USGS) reported that the presentation on springs in Texas will be presented at the next meeting.

## **VIII. Adjourn**

Chair, Mary Ambrose, adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:28 p.m., CDT.